

U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
and  
U. S. Department of Commerce  
Weather Bureau

Nebr. Dept. of Agr. & Inspection  
Division of Agr'l. Statistics  
and  
Agricultural Extension Service  
Of Nebr. College of Agr.

NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Released 5-24-55 - 11:00 A.M.

Week Ending 5-23-55

WEATHER Temperatures averaged near normal in the west to considerably above in the east. Moderate to heavy rains fell over the western and central portions of the state early in the week, and light to moderate showers at the close. These rains extended as light to moderate showers over the western half of the eastern division, but the eastern half received none. Several days were sunny, and there was less than the usual amount of wind.

CROPS Nebraska's wheat crop has been damaged severely. Some has been abandoned and some used for pasture. Benefits to wheat in the western two thirds of the state due to recent rains and cool weather offset continued deterioration in the eastern third of the state resulting in a slight improvement for the crop as a whole. Wheat in the southern counties, from Jefferson west to Harlan, probably suffered the most severe damage, with Nuckolls and Webster counties probably the least promising. However, some wheat in central and northeastern Nebraska has suffered considerable damage.

There is spotted damage in the western third of the state, but in general, most of the crop survived the dry weather and winds better than expected. Southern Kimball county wheat is a loss. Some of Cheyenne county's wheat was damaged badly by cut worms and hail. Deuel county has perhaps the best wheat of any county in the state. Most of the wheat in Box Butte, Dawes, and Sheridan counties and southwestern Nebraska is better than expected. Wheat in the eastern third of the state received little or no rain. It has fired in spots and in some cases, the entire field; however, the outlook is still fairly good in extreme eastern counties.

About 49% of the corn had been planted by the close of the week. A year ago this date 91% of the corn had been planted. Rains of the past week delayed corn planting somewhat in the western two thirds of the state. In eastern Nebraska some farmers are still holding off because the soil is too dry to sprout the corn. Some farmers have irrigated their corn ground before planting. There is still some further comment as to a possible shift from corn to grain sorghum.

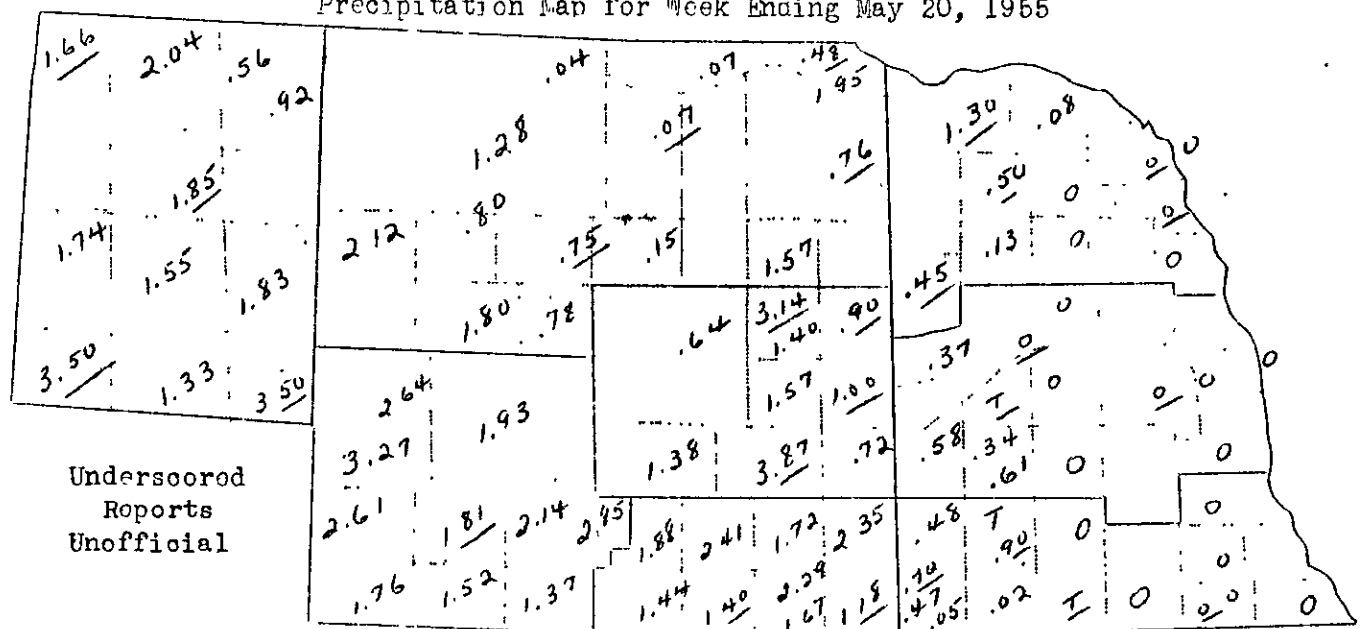
Most of the oats are still green, but growth has been retarded. The crop will be late, and the present outlook for an oats crop is very poor. Ample moisture and a cool June could improve the outlook. The condition of oats and barley is much better in western Nebraska; however, much more rain will be needed.

Considerable of the alfalfa has been harvested and the crop is very short. The areas receiving rain and also irrigated alfalfa is generally good. Much of the dry land crop is not worth harvesting. The outlook for wild hay in the sand hills improved since the rain, but some of the counties in the eastern portion of the sand hills received very little moisture.

Tame grass pasture is extremely short. Most of it had not started prior to the rain. Tame grass pastures in extreme southeastern Nebraska are in better shape. Pastures in the sand hills had started to green up a little before the rain and by the close of the past week, had greened considerably. Hard land pastures in western Nebraska have started to green up since the rain.

LIVESTOCK The lack of pasture and shortage of hay in much of Nebraska has been very severe for cattle producers. Hay prices advanced sharply and in some cases, had to be moved in from long distances. There has been some forced sales of cattle, but the outlook has brightened over much of the state since the rain. However, the situation is still serious in counties of eastern Nebraska which have received little or no rain.

# Precipitation Map for Week Ending May 20, 1955



HIGHEST AND LOWEST TEMPERATURES (Highs for 24 hours ending at 12:30 a.m., and lows for 12 hours ending at 6:30 a.m. CST)

		May		17th		18th		19th		20th		21st		22nd		23rd	
		Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min
NW	Chadron	67	42	62	48	62	43	..	47	82	52	84	54	75	48		
	Scottsbluff	67	38	65	50	55	46	73	49	78	51	84	50	81	43		
	Sidney	66	35	64	46	51	50	70	49	74	48	79	49	84	47		
N-C	Burwell	..	..	..	..	73	53	78	51	84	50	85	53	87	54		
	Valentine	79	54	73	53	69	46	81	45	86	57	84	61	86	51		
NE	Norfolk	78	..	80	51	81	52	83	49	87	55	87	53	89	60		
	Sioux City	83	58	80	52	85	57	88	54	89	60	87	57	88	64		
Cen.	Grand Island	80	53	80	56	75	50	81	53	83	58	85	56	87	60		
E-C	Lincoln	80	59	81	59	80	53	84	59	87	56	85	56	87	72		
	Omaha	81	56	79	51	80	55	85	59	87	60	85	58	86	69		
SW	Imperial	78	45	62	50	58	53	75	50	79	50	80	55	85	50		
	North Platte	78	52	68	52	62	53	77	48	80	49	81	57	84	53		

## WEATHER BUREAU TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 23, 1955

Eastern Division		Central Division		Western Division	
Grand Island	.72	Burwell	1.85	Chadron	2.54
Lincoln	T.	North Platte	2.26	Imperial	2.37
Norfolk	.13	Valentine	.67	Scottsbluff	1.63
Omaha	0			Sidney	1.61
Sioux City	0				

## Precipitation, April 1-May 20, 1955

	Eastern Div.	Central Div.	Western Div.
Total past week	.13	1.45	1.70
Total since April 1	2.00	2.17	3.02
Normal since April 1	4.97	4.36	3.73

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